@WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SET FOR 9TH MARCH 1993

@ Registration of Newspapers

*181. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR ; SHRI IQBAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of newspapers under various categories registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India; and

(b) what is the mechanism by which it is ensured that the provisions of PRB Act, 1867 have been properly implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) As per the records maintained in the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI), a total of 35,139 newspapers under various categories have been registered with RNI.

(b) The office of the RNI was created in 1955 under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 and this office is responsible for administration of the Act.

Foreign investment in Power Sector

*182. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 152 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd February, 1993 and state :

(a) whether any Scheme is under consideration of Government to invite more foreign companies in the power sector during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the total amount of investment likely to be made in these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) : (a) A Scheme permitting Private Sector participation including participation by Foreign Companies in the Power Sector is already under implementation and the same is applicable to 1993-94 as well.

(b) The Scheme offers a package of financial icentives along with a liberalised legal and administrative framework, details of which are enunciated in the Policy announced by the Government in this regard.

(c) At present, 41 proposals from different private investors for setting up a capacity of nearly 20,000 MWs are in hand. But the total investment likely to be made in these Projects during 1993-94 is difficult to quantify.

भारत-रूस व्यापार में विदेशी मुद्रा का घोटाला

*183. **श्री लक्खी राम अग्रवाल** : क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रवर्तन निदेशालय को भारत-रूस व्यापार में करोड़ों रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा के घोटाले के मामले का पता चला है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि भारत-रूस व्यापार के अन्तर्गत फर्जी आयात के बदले भुगतान रुपया और रूबल के अलावा अन्य मुद्राओं में किया गया है और यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या भारत में स्थित विदेशी बैंक अपने "वोस्त्रो खातों" का ब्यौरा नियमित रूप से भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक को भेज रहे हैं और यदि हां, तो क्या उपर्युक्त घोटाले का भुगतान उस ब्यौरे में शामिल है ?

@The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday, the 9th March, 1993 was cancelled. Answers to the Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, the 10th March, 1993.